

[Bridge, William M.]

ARKPORT MAN INSTANTLY KILLED BY TRAIN ON SHAWMUT
William Bridge Meets Sudden Death This Forenoon

William M. Bridge, 62 years old, one of the most prominent residents of the village of Arkport, was struck and almost instantly killed about 10 o'clock this morning by a southbound Shawmut freight near the Hurlburt crossing a short distance north of the station. The noise made by a passing train on the Erie is believed to have caused him to fail to hear the approach of the Shawmut train.

Mr. Bridge was one of the best known and most successful farmers in this part of Steuben county. He was born in the town of Dansville but had been a resident of Arkport for the past 23 years. He was a member of Arkport Grange No. 1373 and was prominent in various local affairs.

The train which struck him was in [the] charge of Engineer Fay Palmer of Angelica and Conductor T. J. Snyder of North Hornell. According to their report Mr. Bridge was walking along the tracks going in the same direction the train was traveling and apparently he failed to hear it coming. He was badly crushed and died within a few minutes after being struck. The accident happened a short distance from the crossing leading toward the Arkport Creamery and it is supposed that Mr. Bridge was on his way there.

He is survived by his widow, two daughters, Miss Winifred Bridge at home and Mrs. Margaret Stuart of Cameron; a son, William Bridge at home [twin of Winifred, born in 1910]; three sisters, Mrs. Celia Jones of Geneseo, Miss Sarah Bridge of Rogersville and Mrs. Fred Wellington of Oak Hill; and three brothers, Arthur Bridge of Fremont, Van Bridge and Jesse Bridge of Rogersville.

The body was removed to Robertson's Funeral Home and will be taken to the family residence later.

Coroner M. B. Burch, who had charge of the case, stated that reports from members of the train crew were to the effect that they saw Mr. Bridge on the tracks about 200 yards ahead and that the engine whistle was sounded and the bell rung. Apparently Mr. Bridge heard the sound for he glanced over to the Erie train but failed to look back. The engineer applied the emergency brakes and made every effort to stop but without success. Under orders the body was not removed from underneath the tender of the train until the coroner arrived.

Evening Tribune-Times, Hornell NY, Mon. 7 May 1928

[Bridge, William M.]

Oak Hill and Arkport

This community was greatly shocked again on Monday to hear of the sudden death of William M. Bridge of Arkport. He was going to take his potatoes out of the warehouse near the station and had sent his son around the road with the team and wagon and he cut across to the railroad track and was walking down the track when he was struck and instantly killed, about 10 o'clock, by the southbound Shawmut freight near the Hurlbut crossing north of the station. A passing train on the Erie at the same time is supposed to have been the cause of his failing to hear the approach of the Shawmut train as reports from members of the train crew were to the effect that they saw Mr. Bridge on the track about 200 yards ahead and that the engine whistle was sounded and the bell rung, and that the engineer applied the emergency brakes and made every effort to stop, but without success. Men from the creamery who had seen the accident tried to call Mr. Bridge's attention to his danger but without avail. Apparently Mr. Bridge heard the train whistle when it was sounded as he glanced over to the Erie train, but failed to look back.

Mr. Bridge was 62 years old and was born in the town of Dansville, but had resided in Arkport for the past 23 years where he was one of the best known and most successful farmers in this part of Steuben county. He was a member of the Arkport Grange No. 1373, and was prominent in various local affairs. The survivors are his widow, who was formerly Dora Ellis Reddy, one son and one daughter, William and Winifred Bridge [twins, born in 1910], at home, and one step-daughter, Mrs. Margaret Reddy Stuart of Cameron, three sisters, Mrs. Celia Jones of Geneseo, Mrs. Fred Wellington of Oak Hill and Miss Sarah Bridge of Rogersville, and three brothers, Arthur Bridge of Fremont, and Van and Jesse Bridge of Rogersville. The body was removed to the Robertson funeral home and was brought back to his home Tuesday noon, where funeral services will be conducted by Rev. Clara Morgan [of the Woodbury Universalist Church in Hornell] at 2:30 o'clock on Thursday.

Dansville Express, Dansville NY, Fri. 11 May 1928